



Sustainable development paths: Investigating the roots of local policy responses to climate change

Author(s): Burch S
Year: 2011
Journal: Sustainable Development. 19 (3): 176-188

Abstract:

As the implications of a changing climate come into focus, attention must shift to effectively stimulating action in response to this dramatically pervasive phenomenon. Responses to climate change, however, are embedded in institutional procedures, technological pathways and cultural practices that are characterized by deep inertia. By paying express attention to linkages among disciplines, this paper takes steps towards contributing a richer definition of the development path concept, identifying realms of inquiry that may together be called a 'development path' literature and discussing ways in which this sheds light on effective responses to global climate change. This paper reveals the value of fundamentally interdisciplinary approaches to climate change responses, the necessity of a deeper understanding of the context of action on climate change and the ubiquity of path dependence. Rooted in the underlying socio-technical, institutional and socio-cultural development paths, barriers to action may best be addressed through contextually specific, inter-disciplinary analyses of collective human behaviour.

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/sd.435>

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Researcher

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article, Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified